

al. (US Patent No. 5,527,783). The Office indicates that Claims 37, 38, 43, and 44 would be allowable if they were not dependent on a rejected base claim.

It is the position of the Office that Derrieu, et al. teaches a composition that contains all of the components of the instant composition, thereby rendering the instant claims obvious. With this Response and Amendment, the applicants amend generic Claim 26 to include the density limitation of instant Claim 37. The applicants submit that Derrieu, et al. does not disclose compositions having a density of less than 0.9 g/cm³. Based on the Office position that instant Claim 37 would be allowable if it contained all of the limitations of the base claim, the applicants submit that instant Claim 26 as it is currently amended, is not rendered obvious by the disclosure of Derrieu, et al. based on the Office statements of record. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested in view of the applicants' instant amendment.

The claims have also been amended to better encompass the disintegration times of the instantly claimed compositions. Claim 39 has been amended to claim "...a disintegration time of less than one minute", and new Claim 51 directed to compositions having a disintegration time of less than 30 seconds has been added.

* * * * *

Accordingly, entry of the present amendment, reconsideration of all grounds of objection and rejection, withdrawal thereof, and passage of this application to issue are all hereby respectfully solicited.

It should be apparent that the undersigned attorney has made an earnest effort to place this application into condition for immediate allowance. If he can be of assistance to the Examiner in the elimination of any possibly-outstanding insignificant impediment to an immediate allowance, the Examiner is respectfully invited to call him at his below-listed number for such purpose.

Allowance is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

THE FIRM OF HUESCHEN AND SAGE

By: 
G. PATRICK SAGE

Dated: April 23, 2004
Customer No.: 25,666
500 Columbia Plaza
350 East Michigan Ave.
Kalamazoo, MI 49007-3856
(269) 382-0030

Enclosure: Listing of Claims; Postal Card Receipt

* * * * *

THE COMMISSIONER IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY FURTHER OR ADDITIONAL FEES WHICH MAY BE REQUIRED (DUE TO OMISSION, DEFICIENCY, OR OTHERWISE), OR TO CREDIT ANY OVERPAYMENT, TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 08,3220.